Greetings and…Just a note,

Our June meeting features a demo of a flower carving. This is a mallet and gouge project. There will be blank. Bring your tools and have a go! This is for all carvers, the new young, the not so young and how it relates to the other carvings that you might be contemplating or working on. This is something for all.

By the way, the look on the face of the carver, who just completed their first-time-flower is amazing pride, surprise, wonder, etc.…and the thought "I can't believe I just made that flower"!!

The Pres
p.s. I will be teaching this demo.

Calendar:

CWCA Club Meetings – June 5 & July 3 – at CFPA, 16 Meriden Rd, Rockfall, CT - 10am-2pm.

Open Carving Night – June 8 and every second Wednesday 7-9 pm at Bristol Carousel Museum.

Flanders Farm Festival - May 21, 11 to 4 pm. Come to carve, demo, sell.

Westbrook Decoy & Carving Competition - May 21, 9 - 3p.m. at Westbrook Elks Lodge, 142 Seaside Ave.

Elenor Wolf Day - June 11, 10-3 Wethersfield Nature Ctr, 156 Prospect St. Bring chairs, tent. Power available.

Annual Club Picnic – Saturday July 23, 10-3 at 53 Mayflower Ln., Meriden. This will be a joint event with Central CT Woodturners, who will doing a woodturning demo!

Mystic Carvers Retreat at Enders Island, Aug. 26 - 29, 2022.

White Memorial Family Day – in process of scheduling for 9/24.

For additional information on a calendar events, check the club web site at www.ctwoodcarvers.org .

Currently Serving CWCA Officers:

President	Leo Hein	860-675-5473	Secretary	Dan Holiday	860-620-2255
V. President	Michael Audette	860-388-7874	Treasurer	Bob McVety	203-288-3161
Membership	Mark Austin	860-283-2177	Web Liaison	Lynda Zibbideo	203-686-1207
Newsletter	Mike Schulde	860-379-5805			

TIME TO 'RE-UP'! Please send $15.00 to Mark Austin to renew membership For 2022. Failure to renew membership will mean that you will be dropped from the mailing list. Checks should be made to 'CWCA' & mailed with form to: **CWCA Membership, 258 Campville Rd, Northfield, CT 06778**

Name _____ New Member? ☐ Yes

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Ideal Thickness & Edge for a Wood Carving Blade

Carving has to do with slicing through wood, and thin blades make for easier slicing. The strength aspect of a carving blade mostly comes from blade width, which enables a carver to exert force in the direction of slicing action. But let's face it: there's a reason we don't use Exacto blades for all of our carving - there are times when we are tempted to pry out a resistant chip. And that's what snaps a thin blade.

So your carving style has to be factored in, along with species and moisture content of the wood you are carving (think green Basswood vs. seasoned Rock Maple).

Here are some examples of the thickness of common carving blades:

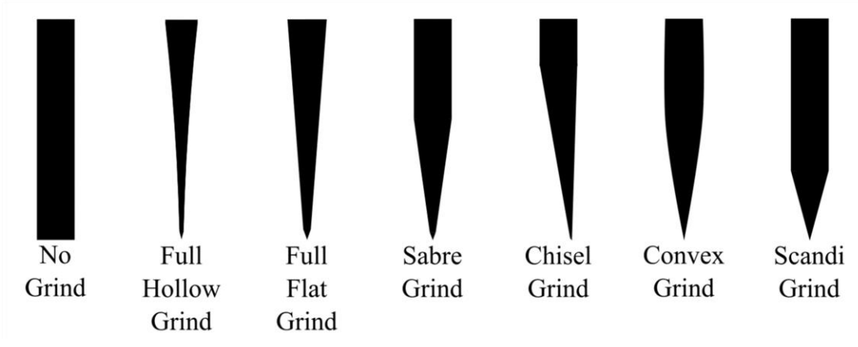
Flexcut Detail .051 inch
Helvie 1 3/4 inch straight blade .033
Butz Detail .050
Goodman Scimitar 1 3/4 inch blade .030
Helvie mini straight blade 1 inch .028
Helvie mini upsweep blade 1 inch .032

Blades may taper from heel to tip, so thickness depends on where you put your gage.

If you like to use a thin blade, edge grind can add strength to the knife. While a *Hollow* grind is best for removal of material, a *Sabre* grind of 30-40 degrees will make for a stronger blade than you would have otherwise. A Full Flat grind is thickest at the spine for strength, but tapers down into a relatively thin edge for excellent slicing. More steel is removed from the sides, allowing for easier slicing and allowing the blade to move through mediums easier. A full flat grind will (typically) be stronger than a hollow grind, and cut better than the sabre grind. However, even with a flat or saber edge, a carving knife should never be used for prying, chopping, or heavy piercing.

Some knives don't even bother with an edge bevel at all. For example, *Sloyd* & *Puuko* knives (or *Kazan* knives which have a single convex grind) . The Convex grind on this type of blade arcs out towards the edge. The Convex grind is similar to the Sabre grind in that it typically still has a lot of steel in the middle of the blade, making it the thickest of the main types of grinds. This puts extra steel behind the edge, reinforcing and strengthening it. In practice, convex grinds often do have a small edge bevel, or a "micro" edge bevel, depending on how they are sharpened.

The main method to sharpen Convex grinds is to use a flat surface with a little give (such as a leather pad with an abrasive) and stroke away from the edge to give it a "micro" bevel edge. Afterward you'll need to strop off any burrs.



‘Tis the Season to Display & Sell

M. Schulde, 126 Goose Green Rd., Barkhamsted, CT 06063